

5 CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fastener drive system comprising the following:  
a fastener including a plurality of external drive surfaces; and  
a fastener driver including a plurality of drive blades, each of the drive blades  
10 including an engagement surface adapted to engage one of the  
external drive surfaces during driving of the fastener by the fastener  
driver.
2. A fastener drive system according to claim 1, wherein the  
15 fastener driver comprises a socket adapted for connection to a ratchet driver.
3. A fastener drive system according to claim 2, wherein the  
plurality of drive blades comprises at least three drive blades.
- 20 4. A fastener drive system according to claim 2, wherein the  
plurality of drive blades comprises at least four drive blades.
5. A fastener drive system according to claim 1, wherein the  
engagement surface of each drive blade comprises a pair of blade surfaces  
25 converging at the contact edge.
6. A fastener drive system according to claim 5, wherein the  
engagement surface of each drive blade of each drive blade comprise a bottom

5 surface and an inclined surface.

7. A fastener drive system according to claim 1, wherein each of the drive blades comprises a plurality of contact teeth.

10 8. A fastener drive system according to claim 7, wherein the contact teeth have a chevron shape.

9. A fastener drive system comprising the following:  
a fastener including a plurality of external drive surfaces; and  
15 a fastener driver including a plurality of drive blades, each of the drive blades having a generally wedge-shaped cross section and including a contact edge adapted to engage one of the external drive surfaces during driving of the fastener by the fastener driver.

20 10. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein the fastener driver comprises a cylindrical socket adapted for connection to a ratchet driver.

11. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein the  
25 number of drive blades corresponds in number to the number of external drive surfaces.

12. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein the

5 plurality of drive blades comprises at least three drive blades.

13. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein the plurality of drive blades comprises at least four drive blades.

10 14. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein each of the drive blades comprises a pair of blade surfaces converging at the contact edge.

15 15. A fastener drive system according to claim 4, wherein the blade surfaces of each drive blade comprise a bottom surface and an inclined surface.

16. A fastener drive system according to claim 14, wherein the bottom surface of the drive blade is substantially perpendicular to a central axis of the fastener driver.

20 17. A fastener drive system according to claim 9, wherein each of the drive blades comprises a plurality of contact teeth.

18. A fastener drive system according to claim 17, wherein the contact teeth have a chevron shape.

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